

STADIUM IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

VISION AND PRINCIPLES

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VISION

The best urban football stadium in the country that connects with and is at the core of a vibrant place.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

A building . . . with a bold and iconic design and a high level of construction quality that complements the Minneapolis skyline; reflects its unique location, setting, climate, and culture; and both stands out and stands for what it is. It will be open, welcoming, transparent, and penetrable, and will link indoor and outdoor spaces - both visually and physically - with activities and circulation routes, particularly at the pedestrian level, that together connect the interior of the building with the plaza, the site, the neighborhood, and the city on all sides. The stadium's design will be forceful and original but will also take into account its location and context and fit into and contribute to both its immediate surroundings and the whole east side of Downtown. The resulting stadium will stand as a national example for best sustainable practices for this type of facility. The design team shall consider the following when designing the building:

- Be bold, iconic, sophisticated, and cosmopolitan.
- Design the building exterior using climate-appropriate and local materials that reflect and incorporate the strength of Minnesota's natural resources.
- Incorporate sports, fitness, recreation, and other commercial uses such as restaurants, cafés or a team store that can be accessed and viewed from the surrounding streets and plaza and that will be used by nearby neighbors and residents every day of the year.
- Incorporate entrances on all sides of the building.
- Design a porous exterior that incorporates windows and retractable features to help break up the façade and allow views into and out of the building at all levels.
- Design the stadium so its primary facades face downtown and the plaza.
- Every view of the stadium is important in an urban environment – place emphasis on all sides by using similar materials, architectural continuity, and by hiding loading areas and parking.
- Use landscape materials to soften the edge of the stadium and to help break up long expanses of wall.
- Integrate bicycle connections and amenities within the stadium.

A place . . . that activates its surroundings and creates a memorable experience for fans on game day and for nearby residents, workers, and business owners every day. It will provide a seamless transition to nearby properties while promoting public safety and accessibility. Public spaces will be versatile and friendly for all users and include landscape features designed to reflect the four seasons and be usable and attractive year round. The resulting plaza will stand as a national example for best accessibility practices for this type of facility and make Minneapolis the home to the three most accessible stadiums in the country. The resulting stadium building and plaza will stand as a national example for best sustainable practices for this type of facility. The design team shall consider the following when designing the plaza:

- Be a bold, iconic, urbane plaza and world-class outdoor destination that stands up to and complements the stadium design.
- Create a dramatic approach, vista, or archway as one approaches the stadium
- Prioritize quality over quantity in the sizing, design, and materials selection for the plaza
- A cherished community destination that is flexible, multi-functional, and beautiful to look at, walk by, and pass through all year round, even when it is not in use.
- Allow visitors coming from all directions to walk around the entire circumference of the facility on their way from one place to another without being impeded.
- Use high-quality materials - ranging from paving and trees to lights and street furniture – to create a memorable urban experience.
- Integrate public art into the actual infrastructure of the plaza space.
- Allow active programming and use on game days but more importantly on other days.
- Be friendly and inviting for all by ensuring access and easy movement for people of all abilities and by all modes of transport.
- Integrate family friendly features on the plaza on game days and for residents and neighbors year round.
- Implement a landscape design that is lush and green to attract people to the plaza from the neighborhoods to the north, south, and east, the downtown core to the west, and the Mississippi River.
- Be a 21st Century plaza with an ecological ethic rooted in natural and cultural processes that integrate storm water management, native plants and regional materials.
- Include a generous tree canopy to provide shade, wind protection, and to reduce heat-island effects.
- Make the plaza a safe place by using principles of natural surveillance and incorporating physical features designed for people and activity that maximize visibility and safety to foster positive social interactions.
- Integrate bicycle connections and amenities within close proximity to the stadium.
- Create direct and seamless connections to the Downtown East LRT Station from the stadium structure.

A sustainable development... based on the design and construction of a world-class stadium and community asset that produces the lowest total cost of ownership to the City while serving as a model for energy efficiency, renewable energy and incorporation of healthy, sustainable design features that meet or exceed the City's sustainability goals. The design team should maximize energy efficiency and renewable energy on the stadium site, with an analysis of payback periods for each item, and design features as a group. As with other state-funded building projects, the stadium and surrounding site must meet [Minnesota B3 Sustainable Building Guidelines, including the SB2030 Energy Standard](#) and strive for other certification, such as LEED ND and LEED O & M. The stadium and site should meet or exceed the City's goals for stormwater management, waste reduction and recycling and the inclusion and promotion of healthy and local food options. The stadium and site should be designed to promote access and use year-round and function as a community asset. Access to the stadium and the site should be safe and convenient for all modes of travel – pedestrians, cyclists, transit users and drivers. The design team shall integrate into the design process sustainable design and construction and operating measures including...

Sustainable design and construction:

- Given the City of Minneapolis' commitment to the operating and maintenance costs, design a stadium that meets the City, State, community, and team needs while also producing the lowest total cost of ownership. This includes ongoing energy, maintenance and materials costs.
- Meet B3 Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines, including the SB 2030 Energy Standard as required of other state-financed projects. Use the Xcel Enhanced Energy Design Assistance program. Document how many years the investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy will take to payback. Source as many energy efficiency products from Minnesota sources as possible.
- Provide a minimum of 20%, up to the amount that can feasibly be provided based on a 30 year payback, of the facilities on-site energy use through on-site renewable energy production. Document how many years the investment renewable energy provided will take to payback. Document how many years the investment in renewable energy provided will take to payback using systems manufactured in Minnesota.
- Pursue LEED ND certification to the highest level possible (minimum of LEED Silver) for the stadium and surrounding site development.
- Evaluate the possibility of a district heat and power system for heating and cooling all the facilities part of the stadium complex during the Energy Design Assistance (EDA) process.
- Achieve compliance with the City's Chapter 54 ordinance dealing with stormwater, removing at least 70% of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) from the site and implement other stormwater best management practices on site.
- Coordinate with Minneapolis Department of Health and their proposed health guidelines for the design and operation of the stadium and surrounding site.
- Design the stadium and surrounding site to encourage a wide choice of transportation modes – transit, bike, pedestrian and car – for game-day and non-game day visitors.
- Design for material efficiency to reduce materials, promote durability, facilitate maintenance using materials that are appropriate to Minneapolis's climate and weather

Sustainable operations:

- On an ongoing basis, use the B3 Benchmarking system to report the stadium's energy performance to the City and State.
- Pursue LEED Operations and Maintenance (O&M) certification to the highest level possible.
- Implement a facility and site wide coordinated waste reduction and recycling program that includes reduced packaging, convenient recycling and organics collection.
- Allow and encourage the use of local, fresh foods through the vendor choice, sourcing of products and the design of food preparation facilities.

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

A neighborhood . . . where a stadium complements and stimulates dense, mixed-use development that is designed to be transit-oriented. The vibrancy of this area will be expressed through enhanced connections to places of interest, activation at the pedestrian level, and shaping a quality public realm through infrastructure improvements and landscaping. It will be a valued and welcome place to live, work and play all days of the year. This will be a neighborhood...

- With the best urban stadium in the country at its core that attracts residents, business, and investment, and becomes a true, mixed use urban community.
- That engages with the stadium and plaza by supporting commercial activity and formal and informal programming and use at the stadium and on the plaza on game days and every day.
- That is sustainable, integrated with the stadium development, and that meets the criteria for LEED ND (Neighborhood Development).
- That integrates the best principles of transit oriented development in a dense, mixed-use community.
- A place where skyways, tunnels, and dedicated walkways support the stadium but are limited in their scope.
- That integrates strong streetscape design features such as continuous street tree canopy, pedestrian and bicycle systems, public art, seating opportunities, and water features to create green corridors along Chicago Avenue, 5th Street, and 11th Avenue that help strengthen connections between the riverfront, Cedar Riverside, Elliot Park and the CBD .
- That re-establishes the original street grid in the area, where possible, .
- Where surface parking lots are replaced by development over time and tail-gating and game day parking is accommodated increasingly on closed-off public streets, plazas, and parks.
- That values its historic resources and places a priority on preserving and reusing important buildings.
- That encourages activities and uses for people of all ages, including the growing number of families living in and visiting Downtown.
- Where large public facilities are woven into the rest of the Downtown fabric by creating more humane public spaces and streetscapes surrounding these buildings to provide a greater sense of comfort for pedestrians.
- That encourages commercial uses on the ground floor of buildings that promote extended hours of operation in pursuit of city streets that are lively at most hours of the day and night.

A transportation system . . . that is designed to be attractive, accessible, usable, and safe, and able to serve people arriving by any method of surface transportation, from walking and biking to transit and cars, while maximizing the use of public transportation investments; providing connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods, with parking facilities and active spaces that recognize the limited amount of land available in this dense, urban environment. This will be a system that:

- Supports growth and reinvestment in Downtown East, Elliot Park, and Cedar Riverside by improving walking, biking, and transit connections between them.
- Ensures safe, enjoyable, and accessible pedestrian routes to the stadium and other nearby destinations through strategies such as wider sidewalks, trees, landscaping, and street furniture.
- Integrates bicycle connections and amenities within the stadium site and throughout the surrounding area.
- Improves the experience for transit users at the Downtown East LRT station during peak times – such as after Vikings games – through consideration of queuing space, loading times, and overall safety and comfort.
- Manages the role and impact of automobiles in a multi-modal transportation system.
- Improves connections to the regional freeway system.
- Guarantees that parking serves as a resource and not a hindrance with priority placed on providing below grade and structured above grade parking that incorporates active ground floor uses, and results in the reduction of surface parking over time.

A region . . . that supports and benefits from a stadium in order to promote and enhance a vibrant, diverse and sustainable regional economy. Stadium development will stimulate public and private investment and cooperation in the area so everyone gains from this major public investment. This premier location at a regional transit crossroads will support construction and permanent job creation opportunities for workers from throughout the region. Complementary development in this area of Downtown will help to retain existing and attract new residents and businesses to what will be nothing less than a major new urban neighborhood. This will be a region that:

- Supports our local workforce through high inclusionary goals in all aspects of the stadium design, construction, and operations process.
- Encourages business retention and expansion in and around the stadium site.
- Enhances and maintains transportation, wastewater, green space, and other physical infrastructure to serve the needs of businesses.
- Promotes sustainability practices in the redevelopment of areas, including access to mass transit and the use of green technology.
- Forges connections with higher education institutions such as the University of Minnesota in research, service, teaching, and development activities.
- Provides opportunities for current and future residents at all income levels to work in close proximity to where they live.